

Arturo S. Rodriguez

President Emeritus, United Farm Workers

Equity Commission – Co-Chair and Communications and Public Relations Expert

Rodriguez retired as president of the United Farm Workers (UFW) in 2018, after 45 years, the last 25 years spent leading the union. As president emeritus, Rodriguez helps the UFW maintain key employer, retailer, and political relationships, and focuses on immigration issues.

His accomplishments include helping the UFW pull farm worker pay above the minimum wage in many of California's largest agricultural regions and achieving overtime pay for California farm workers after eight hours a day under a historic UFW-sponsored state law.

Rodriguez's activism began in his native Texas in 1966. He started full time UFW service in 1973, meeting civil rights and farm worker advocate Cesar Chavez, who became his mentor for 20 years. He lives with his wife, Sonia, in San Antonio.



Dr. Hazell Reed

Executive Director, National Black Growers Council
Equity Commission
Community-Based Organization Representative

Dr. Reed joined the National Black Growers Council (NBGC) April 2021 as Executive Director. Prior to joining NBGC, he served as Vice Chancellor, Division of Research and Economic Development, North Carolina Central University (NCCU), 2009 - 2015.

Dr. Reed has been involved in higher education administration, teaching, research, outreach and economic development at multiple schools and institutions including the North Carolina Biotechnology Center, NC GlaxoSmithKline Foundation, Delaware State University and University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff. Dr. Reed also served as the inaugural Chair for the National Advisory Committee on Beginning Farmers and Ranchers, United States Department of Agriculture.

He earned the B.S., Horticulture, Arkansas A.M. & N. College (Now the University of Arkansas – Pine Bluff); the M.S., Horticulture/Plant Science, The Pennsylvania State University; and, the Ph.D. Degree, Plant Science, University of Arkansas – Fayetteville



Toni Stanger-McLaughlin

Chief Executive Officer, Native American Agriculture Fund (NAAF)

Equity Commission

Community-Based Organization Representative

Toni Stanger-McLaughlin, J.D., a citizen of the Colville Confederated Tribes, serves as the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the Native American Agriculture Fund (NAAF). Before being named the CEO of NAAF, she served as the first NAAF Director of Programs, assisting the development and delivery of millions of dollars of NAAF philanthropic investment in Tribal food systems.



Stanger-McLaughlin started her agricultural career working in USDA's Office of Civil Rights, where she worked on the Keepseagle national class action litigation. She also worked in the USDA Office of Tribal Relations in the Office of the Secretary, to advance Tribal needs in agriculture, natural resources, land use and infrastructure development. She also served as the Director of Tribal Relations for the University of Arkansas School of Law Indigenous Food and Agriculture Initiative (IFAI) and ran a private consulting business

She earned a J.D. from the University of North Dakota School of Law, focusing on federal Indian law, and holds certificates in mediation, Tribal law and business, and executive leadership. In her spare time, Stanger-McLaughlin enjoys being outdoors with her husband and three children, as well as beading and sewing powwow regalia for her immediate and extended family.

Derrick Johnson

President and Chief Executive Officer, National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP)

Equity Commission

Civil Rights Expert

Derrick Johnson has served as President and CEO of the NAACP, since October of 2017. President Johnson formerly served as vice chairman of the NAACP National Board of Directors, as well as state president for the Mississippi State Conference NAACP.

Under President Johnson's leadership, the NAACP has undertaken such efforts as the 2018 "Log Out" Facebook Campaign, pressuring Facebook after reports of Russian hackers targeting African Americans, the Jamestown to Jamestown Partnership, marking the 400th year enslaved Africans first touched the shores of America, the 2020 We are Done Dying Campaign, exposing the inequities embedded into the American healthcare system and the country at large, and most recently the victorious 2020 Supreme Court lawsuit NAACP vs. Trump, which prevents Donald Trump's administration from rescinding the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program for millions of young immigrants.

Born in Detroit, Johnson attended Tougaloo College in Jackson, MS. He then received his J.D. from the South Texas College of Law in Houston, TX. He has also furthered his training through fellowships with the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation, the George Washington University School of Political Management, and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT). Johnson has served as an annual guest lecturer at Harvard Law School, lending his expertise to Professor Lani Guinier's course on social movements, and as an adjunct professor at Tougaloo College. He is frequently featured on CNN, MSNBC, CBS, ABC and many others, advocating on behalf of the Black community and all those who are affected by systemic oppression and prejudice.



Dr. Ronald Rainey

Assistant Vice President, University of Arkansas System
Division of Agriculture

Equity Commission Economist

Dr. Ron Rainey serves as Assistant Vice President and Professor for the University of Arkansas System Division of Agriculture. He provides collaborative leadership to diversity, equity, and inclusion efforts; broadband expansion; value-added entrepreneurship; and enhanced collaboration across research, teaching and extension mission areas as well as the Center for Agriculture and Rural Sustainability and the Southern Risk Management Education Center (SRMEC).



An Extension economist, Dr. Rainey focuses on enhancing farm and ranch value-added entrepreneurship, risk management and marketing throughout the agricultural sector. Over his almost 30-year career, he has worked across disciplines and state lines engaging with public and private partners. His programs have secured more than \$25 million in grants and contracts.

He is the former President of the University of Arkansas' National Alumni Board of Directors and continues to be active with alumni chapters and societies in Arkansas. Dr. Rainey lives in Little Rock with his wife, Jenel, and their daughter

Dr. Mireya Loza

Associate Professor, Georgetown University
Equity Commission – Historian

Dr. Mireya Loza is an Associate Professor in the Department of History and the American Studies Program at Georgetown University and holds an appointment as a curator at the National Museum of American History. She earned a Ph.D. in American Studies and an M.A. in Public Humanities at Brown University. Her areas of research include Immigration History, Labor History and Food Studies. Prior to joining the faculty at Georgetown, she taught in the Department of Food Studies at New York University.

Her award-winning book, *Defiant Braceros: How Migrant Workers Fought for Racial, Sexual and Political Freedom* (UNC Press), examines America's largest guest worker program. Her research has been funded by the Ford Foundation, the National Endowment for the Humanities, and the Smithsonian's Latino Center.



Charles “Charlie” Rawls

Former General Counsel, Farm Credit Administration
and Former General Counsel, USDA

Equity Commission

Legal Expert

Charles (Charlie) Rawls is an experienced leader in federal legal and policy matters focused on agriculture and agricultural credit. Most recently, he completed 18 years of service as general counsel at the Farm Credit Administration (FCA).

His prior federal experience includes serving at USDA in the 1990's, first as executive assistant to Deputy Secretary Richard Rominger. He served as general counsel of the Department from 1998 to 2000, during which he worked to address civil rights issues, including collaboration with the Department of Justice and Congress to resolve the initial class action brought in 1997 by African American farmers.

Rawls has done extensive legal and policy work on agricultural legislation, including farms bills, for both the House and Senate Agriculture Committees. He earned a B.A. in Business Management from North Carolina State University, and a J.D. from the Wiggins School of Law at Campbell University. He is a member of the state bar of North Carolina.



Shorlette Ammons

Program Director, Farm Aid

Equity Commission – Organizational Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Expert

Shorlette Ammons currently serves as Program Director for Farm Aid. She most recently served as Equity in Food Systems Coordinator, Extension Associate with the Center for Environmental Farming Systems (CEFS) at NC State University in Raleigh, NC. Through CEFS, Shorlette leads the CORE (Committee on Racial Equity) team where she coordinates and facilitates racial equity trainings and ongoing learning sessions, facilitates guest lectures, and develops curriculum and strategic tools to address food insecurity and other food systems disparities.

She was selected as the Center for Social Inclusion's (now Race Forward) 2013 Food and Racial Equity Fellow, and is a 2019 Castanea Fellow, currently serving on the board of Land Loss Prevention Project which provides legal services and advocates for Black and small farmers.

She is a former children's librarian, where she helped found the Wayne County Public Library's community garden, with a Master of Library Science (MLS) degree from North Carolina Central University in Durham, NC. Ammons has a teenage daughter, now in college and a sweet pup named Lady, and lives in Durham, NC.



Poppy Sias-Hernandez

Chief Equity and Inclusion Officer, State of Michigan and
Executive Director for the Office of Global Michigan
**Equity Commission – Organizational Development, Design Thinking
and Change Management Expert**

Poppy Hernandez received her B.A. from the University of California, Berkeley and her M.A. from Western Michigan University. For more than 20 years, Hernandez' work of strategic change management has been at the intersection of public health, education, workforce development, and diversity, equity and inclusion. In 2019, she was appointed by Governor Gretchen Whitmer as the Regional Director of Community Affairs. In 2020, Governor Whitmer appointed Hernandez as the first-ever Chief Equity and Inclusion Officer (EIO) in the Executive Office of the Governor. In addition to her role as the Chief EIO, she also serves as the Executive Director of the Office of Global Michigan. Hernandez lives on Michigan's "west coast," along the shores of the beautiful Lake Michigan, with her husband of 25 years and has two remarkable sons who are currently busy adulting.



Todd Corley

Senior Vice President for Inclusion & Sustainability, Carhartt
**Equity Commission – Organizational Development, Design
Thinking and Change Management Expert**

Todd Corley is the Senior Vice President, Inclusion, Sustainability & Community at Carhartt, a global workwear brand. In his role, Corley oversees charitable giving and long-term value creation linked to environmental and social issues.

Corley has deep experience leading transformational change initiatives focused on promoting equity and belonging, including mitigating the reputational and financial losses following a landmark \$50M Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) discrimination case (*Abercrombie & Fitch v. Gonzalez*).

He is a recipient of the Claes Nobel World Betterment Award, presented by the esteemed family that established the Nobel Prize, recognizing his contributions to the promotion of global unity and cultural understanding. Corley is a graduate of Le Moyne College and Georgetown University (MBA). Todd also completed executive education programs at Dartmouth College (Brand & Reputation Management) and Massachusetts Institute of Technology (Artificial Intelligence).



Yvonne Lee

Former Commissioner for the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights

**Equity Commission
Policy Design Expert**

Yvonne Yim-Hung Lee has a 40-year career advancing social and economic justice for underrepresented communities. She has effectively advocated for policies and initiatives toward equitable access to health, safety, and economic opportunities for vulnerable populations including the elderly, immigrants, and minority-owned small businesses.



As the first national executive director for a Chinese American civil rights organization, Lee collaborated with other national civil rights organizations to advocate for anti-hate legislation and the preservation of family immigration and economic justice for minority-owned small businesses. Her diverse public service experience also includes serving as a member of the US Commission on Civil Rights, Regional Advocate of the U.S. Small Business Administration, and Commissioner of the San Francisco Police Commission. Lee currently serves on the San Francisco Ethics Commission.

Lee has received numerous awards, including a California Emmy for Best Documentary for her film, “Separate Lives, Broken Dreams” on the Chinese Exclusion Act’s long-term impact on families and communities. She is an alumna of the University of California at Davis.

Elizabeth Lower-Basch

Director of Income and Work Supports, Center for Law and Social Policy

**Equity Commission
Policy Design Expert**

Elizabeth Lower-Basch directs the Income and Work Supports team at the Center for Law and Social Policy (CLASP), a national, nonpartisan, anti-poverty policy advocacy organization. In this role, she leads a team of experts focused on the core public benefits programs that help people with low incomes meet their and their families' basic nutrition, health care and other needs, including the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP).



From 1996 to 2006, Ms. Lower-Basch worked for the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, focusing on the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program. Her work included writing one of the first analyses of racial disparities in the outcomes of families with low incomes under TANF.

She received a B.A. in History from Yale University, writing her thesis on pro- and anti-immigrant tendencies in the 19th century American labor movement and an M.P.P. in public policy from Harvard University's Kennedy School of Government.

Shirley Sherrod

Executive Director, Southwest Georgia Project for
Community Education

Equity Commission

Representative of Broad Spectrum of Related Issues

Shirley Sherrod is the co-founder and executive director of the Southwest Georgia Project for Community Education, Inc. (1966) and the co-founder and Vice President for New Communities, Inc. (1969), the first Community Land Trust in the U.S.

In 2009, she was appointed by the Obama Administration as the Georgia State Director of Rural Development for USDA. She became the first African American to hold this position.

She became active in the civil rights movement in 1965 after the murder of her father when she was 17 years old. This has a profound impact on her life and led to her decision to stay in the South and help build a more just system.

Sherrod has a B.A. in Sociology from Albany State University in Albany, Georgia, and an M.A. in Community Development from Antioch University in Yellow Springs, Ohio. In 2015, she was awarded an Honorary Doctorate from Sojourner-Douglas College in Baltimore, Maryland. She is the recipient of many awards including the James Beard Foundation Award, Estelle Whitherspoon Lifetime Achievement Award, A Fellowship in the Kellogg National Fellowship Program and she has been inducted into the National Co-op Hall of Fame.



Ertharin Cousin

Chair and Chief Executive Officer, Food Systems for the Future
Equity Commission
Representative of Broad Spectrum of Related Issues

Ertharin Cousin currently serves as the CEO and Managing Director of Food Systems for the Future, a nutrition impact investment fund; a Distinguished Fellow at the Chicago Council on Global Affairs; a Bosch Academy, Robert Weizsäcker Fellow; and as a Visiting Scholar at the Stanford University, Center on Food Security and Environment.

From 2012 until 2017, Cousin led the United Nations World Food Programme (WFP). As Executive Director, Cousin guided the 14,000-member WFP team feeding more than 80 million people each year while, she identified and championed longer-term, more sustainable solutions for global food insecurity and hunger.

In 2009, Cousin was nominated and confirmed as the US Ambassador to the UN Agencies for Food and Agriculture in Rome. Prior to her global hunger work, Cousin helped lead the U.S. domestic fight to end hunger including service as the Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer of America's Second Harvest - now Feeding America. She is a graduate of the University of Illinois at Chicago; the University of Georgia Law School and the University of Chicago Executive Management Program-Finance for Non-Financial Executives.



Rick Smith

President and Chief Executive Officer, Dairy Farmers of America
Equity Commission

Representative of Broad Spectrum of Related Issues

Since 2006, Richard P. (Rick) Smith has served as President and Chief Executive Officer of Dairy Farmers of America, Inc. (DFA). Owned by 12,500 US dairy farmers, DFA is the nation's largest and most diversified farmer-owned milk marketing cooperative. At DFA, Smith helped strategically increase value for its farmer owners, grow commercial businesses and the Cooperative's global footprint while creating opportunities to grow a diverse workforce, address unconscious bias in employee policy, and provide training, leadership and growth opportunities for 18,000 staff.



He began his career in the dairy industry in 1982, when he joined Dairylea Cooperative, Inc., as vice president of administration and general counsel. He served as its chief executive officer from 1988 to 2005. Prior to joining Dairylea, Rick was a schoolteacher, and then a private attorney in Syracuse, N.Y. He holds a B.A. (cum laude) in political science from the University of Massachusetts (Amherst) and J.D. degree from St. John's University School of Law, where he was editor of the Law Review.

Shari Rogge-Fidler

President and Chief Executive Officer, Farm Foundation
**Agricultural Subcommittee -
Agricultural Industry Representative**

Shari Rogge-Fidler, president and CEO of Farm Foundation, has more than 25 years of global leadership and executive experience. Rogge-Fidler's unique perspective developed through her experience as a fifth-generation farm owner and operator, entrepreneur in the organic-branded food industry, founder of an agribusiness consulting firm and leader of a soil health technology firm.

She began her career in London in financial services and continued in Europe with the Boston Consulting Group. These experiences uniquely positioned her to take the CEO roles at Family Farms LLC, a suite of services for over 1,000 farms, and Applied GeoSolutions (AGS) LLC, where she led the commercialization of technology for soil health and carbon applications. Rogge-Fidler has served on several corporate boards, including Farm Credit Mid America and Coastal Pet. She currently serves as a trustee for The Nature Conservancy, and advisory boards of the St. Louis Federal Reserve, and Lewis & Clark Agrifood Fund.



Savonala “Savi” Horne

Executive Director, Land Loss Prevention Project
Agriculture Subcommittee – Civil Rights Expert

Savi Horne is Executive Director of the North Carolina Association of Black Lawyers, Land Loss Prevention Project (LLPP), which was founded in 1983. LLPP is a non-profit, public interest law firm with an overarching mission of providing legal expertise, community education, and advocacy skills to help farmers and rural landowners who face legal, economic, and environmental challenges.



Horne has served on numerous initiatives and boards including the United States Environmental Protection Agency’s National Environmental Justice Advisory Council, a Co-Team Leader of the Diversity Initiative of the Farm and Food Policy Project (FFPP); Getting Our Act Together, a national Farm Bill policy collaboration which secured gains in the 2018 Farm Bill to advance civil rights and program access for heirs' property producers, National Family Farm Coalition and the Rural Coalition.

She is a member of the Coordinating Council of Black Land and Power Coalition and the Leadership Team of the National Black Food and Justice Alliance and a recipient of the 2020 American Bar Association Section of Environment, Energy, and Resources (SEER) Award for Excellence in Environmental, Energy, and Resources Stewardship. Horne is a graduate of the Rutgers University School of Law- Newark (J.D.) and the City College of New York (B.A.).

Dr. Alexis Racelis

Associate Professor and Director of Agroecology and Resilient Food Systems Program, University of Texas Rio Grande Valley

**Agriculture Subcommittee -
University Personnel Representative**

Dr. Alexis Racelis is an Associate Professor in the School of Earth, Environmental, and Marine Sciences and the Department of Biology at the University of Texas Rio Grande Valley (UTRGV), a federally designated Hispanic Serving Institution and Hispanic Serving Agricultural College.

He directs the academic program in Agroecology and Resilient Food Systems at UTRGV, an innovative program designed to confront and help address issues in food, agriculture, and agricultural education in south Texas through applied research, experiential learning, and community engagement.

Dr. Racelis also serves as co-director for the UTRGV Center for Sustainable Agriculture and Rural Advancement (SARA), with a mission to improve agricultural sustainability and advance rural communities in Texas. The center specifically and intentionally reaches out to and advocates for local area farmers with culturally appropriate modes, including with Spanish language delivery of personalized extension-style services, technical training, and financial support.



Dr. Gina Eubanks

Associate Vice President of Nutrition and Food Sciences,
Louisiana State University Ag Center

Agriculture Subcommittee – University Personnel Representative

Dr. Gina E. Eubanks is the associate vice president/program leader at the LSU AgCenter. She provides administrative leadership for the School of Nutrition and Food Sciences and Department of Biological Agricultural Engineering. In conjunction with an administrative team, she assists with the coordination of research and extension programs.

Dr. Eubanks received a M.S. and Ph.D. from Oklahoma State University, Stillwater, OK, in Clothing, Textiles and Merchandising and Home Economics Education respectively in 1978 and 1987. Her B.S. degree in Clothing, Textiles and Related Arts from at Southern University Agricultural and Mechanical College, Baton Rouge, LA.



Michelle Hughes

Operations and Impact Director, National Young Farmers Coalition

Agriculture Subcommittee - Community-Based Organization Representative

Michelle A.T. Hughes is a former hog farmer from New Haven, Connecticut, with a background in agriculture policy reform, and experience as a champion for diversity, equity and inclusion. Before serving as Operations and Impact Director for the National Young Farmers Coalition, Michelle was the organization's Equity and Organizational Change Director, serving as a steward for racial equity transformation.



While at Young Farmers, Michelle has conducted a comprehensive racial equity impact assessment of the organization's internal workflows and external programming. She helped develop a framework for the Coalition's anti-racism work for implementation across the organization, from internal change processes to farmer and partner engagement on racial equity.

Prior to completing her M.A. in Food Studies at New York University in 2019, Michelle worked in swine reproduction at the University of Pennsylvania, with both non-profit and food and agriculture start-ups in NYC and the Hudson Valley. She also served on a program evaluation team for the NYC Mayor's Office of Food Policy. Outside of her work at Young Farmers, Michelle is a consultant for the CP Factor, a non-profit consulting team that offers a range of organizational and leadership development services.

Kari Jo Lawrence

Executive Director, Intertribal Agriculture Council
**Agriculture Subcommittee -
Community-Based Organization Representative**

Kari Jo Lawrence currently serves as the Executive Director of the Intertribal Agriculture Council. Prior to joining IAC, Kari Jo enjoyed a 20-year career with the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), most of it serving in Indian Country. During her tenure at the NRCS, she led successful programs and increased historically underserved participation.

Kari Jo was raised on a cattle ranch on the Mandan, Hidatsa, and Arikara Nation in North Dakota near the New Town and Mandaree areas. She attended Dickinson State University, where she earned a degree in Biology.

She is proud to have been one of the first recipients of the IAC Scholarship and says she “has found her way back home.” In her free time, Kari Jo enjoys spending time with her family, working on their ranch, and is an avid rodeo competitor.



Phillip “PJ” Johnson Haynie III

Farmer and Owner, Haynie Farms

**Agriculture Subcommittee -
Farmer/Rancher**

Philip J. (PJ). Haynie, III, graduated from Virginia Tech with a B.S. degree in Agricultural and Applied Economics in May 1999. While attending Virginia Tech, he served as president of the Virginia Tech MANRRS (Minorities in Agriculture Natural Resources and Related Sciences) chapter. During his senior year at Virginia Tech, Haynie was initiated into Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc.

Haynie, a fifth-generation farmer, currently owns and operates Haynie Farms, LLC, a grain farming business, producing corn, wheat, soybeans and canola throughout all four counties of the Northern Neck of Virginia. Haynie and his family also own and operate a transportation company specializing in food grade liquid bulk and dry bulk transportation, a timber harvesting company as well as a landscaping and excavating company. Haynie currently serves as Chairman of the National Black Growers' Council.

P.J. and his wife, Dr. Lisa Haynie, reside in Reedville, VA., with their three children, Colette, age 18; Philip, IV, age 17; and Trevor, age 12.



Russell Redding

Secretary of Agriculture, State of Pennsylvania

Agriculture Subcommittee – Farmer/Rancher

Russell C. Redding is currently serving as 26th Secretary of Agriculture for the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. He is the former dean of the School of Agriculture and Environmental Sciences at Delaware Valley University.

Redding has extensive experience as a public servant, having spent more than 30 years serving Pennsylvania in Harrisburg and Washington D.C. He worked on Capitol Hill as Ag Policy Advisor to U.S. Senator Harris Wofford and served for nearly 24 years in the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture, serving as secretary from 2009-2011 under Governor Rendell.

He earned his B.S. in Agriculture Education and M.S. in Agriculture and Extension Education from Penn State University. In addition, he is a graduate of the Agribusiness Executive program. A native of Pennsylvania, Redding has an innate understanding of food and agriculture, stemming from his youth on his family's dairy farm and his time as a dairy farm operator. He and his wife Nina have two sons and own and operate a farm in Gettysburg.



Janssen Hang

Co-Founder and Executive Director, Hmong American Farmers Association

Agriculture Subcommittee – Farmer/Rancher

Janssen Hang is the Executive Director and co-founder of the Hmong American Farmers Association (HAFA), a non-profit organization that works to advance the economic, social and cultural property of Hmong farmers in Minnesota.



In his position, Janssen works to create equitable access for Hmong farmers to land tenure, markets, credit and capital, training and research. He is also the first Hmong Produce Safety Alliance (PSA) trainer and led the first Hmong bi-lingual, bi-cultural certified Produce Safety Requirement (PSR) training for Hmong farmers in Minnesota, California and Missouri.

Janssen grew up growing, harvesting and selling vegetables for the local food economy and currently runs his family-owned value-added business making spring rolls and egg rolls at the downtown Saint Paul Farmers Market. A 2001 Saint Olaf graduate in Biology and Asian Studies, Janssen has over 30 years of experience in agriculture, 15 years in small business management, and 7 years as a licensed-real estate agent.

Erica Lomeli Corcoran

Systemic Change Director, United Farm Workers Foundation

Agriculture Subcommittee – Farmworker Group Representative

Erica Lomeli Corcoran has more than 14 years of experience serving farm workers, Latinos and immigrants in agricultural areas and is currently serving as a United Farm Workers (UFW) executive team member and Director of the Systemic Change Department. She also serves as a member of the Board of Directors to the Civic Empowerment Coalition (CEC4), a 501(c)(4) non-profit sister organization of the UFW Foundation and the Farm Worker Movement.

Under Corcoran's leadership, the UFW Foundation's Systemic Change Department played an essential role in supporting nearly 1 million farm workers and immigrants in the country's leading agricultural areas during 2020.

She grew up in California and is the proud daughter of Mexican immigrants. She graduated from the University of California Irvine with a degree in Social Science and a M.P.A., with a specialization in Education and Social Policy, from the Daniel J. Evans School of Public Affairs at the University of Washington.



Sarah Vogel

Lawyer, Sarah Vogel Law Office

Agriculture Subcommittee -

Individual Selected at the Discretion of the Secretary

Sarah Vogel is the first woman elected as a state Commissioner of Agriculture and one of the foremost agriculture lawyers in the U.S. The American Agricultural Law Association awarded her its Distinguished Service Award, and Willie Nelson honored Sarah at Farm Aid's 30th Anniversary for her longtime service to family farmers.

Hailed as "a giant killer in ag law" by *The Nation*, Sarah served for decades as co-counsel on the *Keepseagle* case that was filed to redress USDA's race discrimination against Native American ranchers and farmers. A popular speaker and advocate for farmers and Native Americans, Sarah lives in Bismarck, North Dakota



Gary Matteson



Executive Vice President, Young, Beginning, Small Farmer Programs and Outreach, Farm Credit Council

Agriculture Subcommittee -

Individual Selected at the Discretion of the Secretary

Gary Matteson works for Farm Credit's trade association in Washington, DC, as Senior Vice President, Beginning Farmer Programs and Outreach. This includes policy work on local foods, sustainable agriculture, and direct-to-consumer agriculture.

He is an advocate for young, beginning, small, and minority farmer outreach programs. This includes work on emerging opportunities in local foods, direct-to-consumer agriculture, and generational transition of farm businesses. He has researched, designed curricula, and taught financial and business planning skills for more than 15 years to thousands of beginning farmers in conferences, seminars, webinars, and college classrooms. Matteson specializes in making basic business concepts approachable and relevant to beginning farmers.

For 30 years Gary was a small farmer raising greenhouse wholesale cut flowers marketed in the Northeast and beef cattle for local sales. He has served on numerous boards of directors including Farm Credit, Farmer Veteran Coalition, Farmers Market Coalition, and many other non-profits.

Dr. Jennie Stephens

Chief Executive Officer, Center for Heirs' Property Preservation

**Agriculture Subcommittee -
Individual Selected at the Discretion of the Secretary**

Jennie L. Stephens has served as the chief leader of the Center for Heirs' Property Preservation™ (the CHPPTM) since its inception in 2005. The CHPPTM works with historically underserved families who jointly own land that is vulnerable to disposition and underutilization because these landowners have limited or no access to financial resources or government programs. She is responsible for overall strategic planning and resource development. She has worked more than 30 years in the nonprofit field in such positions as fiscal director at a community action agency, sponsored programs director at a historically black college, and senior program director at Coastal Community Foundation.



More recently, Dr. Stephens served as a speaker at TedXCharleston with a talk titled, “Heirs Discover Money Does Grow on Trees” (<https://youtu.be/TMeaii8csFY>) and was selected to be a BALLE Fellow, a member of 25 leaders who are building healthy and equitable rural economies across the U.S. and Canada. In March of 2021, she was featured in the BET documentary series ‘Disrupt and Dismantle’, with Soledad O’Brien.

Dr. Stephens received a B.A. in Business Administration from the College of Charleston, a M.P.A. from the University of Charleston/University of SC and earned a Ph.D. in Organizational Leadership from Regent University in Virginia Beach, VA.